Appl. No. 10/684,686
Amdt. dated November 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 4, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1.   (currently amended) A method for sending a message ~~to a recipient, the~~
2 ~~recipient associated with a plurality of devices~~, the method comprising:
3   receiving a message <u>from a sender to a recipient</u>;
4   determining a <u>recipient identifier for the</u> recipient for the message<u>, the recipient</u>
5 <u>identifier usable to determine a plurality of device types that are associated with the recipient</u>;
6   determining a<u>the</u> plurality of ~~devices~~<u>device types</u> associated with the recipient
7 <u>using the identifier</u>, wherein <u>device identifiers are associated with</u> ~~each device in~~ the plurality of
8 ~~devices~~<u>device types</u> ~~are associated with a device identifier and a communication type~~;
9   <u>dynamically</u> determining a device <u>type</u> in the plurality of ~~devices~~<u>device types</u> in
10 which to send the message <u>in response to receiving the message from the sender</u> ~~based on the~~
11 ~~communication type associated with the device~~; and
12   sending the message to the ~~determined device at its~~ device identifier <u>associated</u>
13 <u>with the determined device type</u>.

1   2.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>dynamically</u>
2 determining the device <u>type</u> comprises determining the device <u>type</u> based on content of the
3 message.

1   3.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 determining communication capabilities for ~~devices~~<u>device types</u> in the plurality of
3 ~~devices~~<u>device types</u>, wherein determining the device <u>type</u> comprises determining the device <u>type</u>
4 based on the communication capabilities for the plurality of ~~devices~~<u>device types</u>.

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1   4.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising

2   determining one or more preferences associated with the recipient, wherein dynamically

3   determining the device type comprises determining the device type based on the one or more

4   preferences.

1   5.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising

2   determining presence information for ~~devices~~ the recipient~~in the plurality of devices associated~~

3   ~~with the user~~, wherein dynamically determining the device type comprises determining the

4   device type based on the presence information.

1   6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the device type is

2   determined based on presence information that indicates ~~the~~ a device for the device type is

3   active.

1   7.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the received

2   message is sent by a ~~second~~ first device that communicates in a first protocol and the sent

3   message is received by ~~the~~ a second device that communicates in a second protocol.

1   8.   (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the second device receives the

2   message in the second protocol.

1   9.   (canceled)

1   10.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically

2   determining the device type comprises:

3   determining a communication type in which to send the message; and

4   determining the device identifier associated with the communication type.

1   11.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the received message does not

2   specify the device identifier.

1   12.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the received message is

2   addressed to a different device identifier than the device identifier of the sent message.

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1   13.   (currently amended) A method for ~~determining a device in a plurality of~~

2 ~~devices in which to send a~~<u>sending a</u> message, the method comprising:

3   receiving a message from a first user for a second user;

4   <u>determining a user identifier for the recipient for the message, the user identifier</u>

5 <u>usable to determine a plurality of device types that are associated with the recipient;</u>

6   determining a device <u>type</u> in ~~a~~ <u>the</u> plurality of ~~devices~~ <u>device types</u> associated

7 with the second user <u>using the identifier</u>;

8   determining a format associated with the determined device<u>type</u>;

9   determining if the message needs to be adapted to the determined format;

10   if the message does need to be adapted, performing the steps of

11   adapting the message to the determined format; and

12   sending the adapted message to the determined device;

13   if the message does not need to be adapted, sending the message to <u>a device</u>

14 <u>identifier for</u> the determined device <u>type</u>.

1   14.   (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the received message

2 comprises a first protocol, wherein the sent message is sent in a second protocol.

1   15.   (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the format comprises at least

2 one of a short message system (SMS), email, instant message (IM), and voice message format.

1   16.   (original) The method of claim 13, wherein adapting the message

2 comprises adapting content of the received message to content compatible with the determined

3 format.

1   17.   (canceled)

1   18.   (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the received message does not

2 specify the determined device identifier.

1   19.   (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the received message is

2 addressed to a different device identifier than the device identifier of the sent message.

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1   20.   (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein determining the

2   device type comprises using at least one of content of the message, communication capabilities

3   for the plurality of devicesdevice types, one or more preferences associated with the second user,

4   and presence information for devices in the plurality of devices device types associated with the

5   second user.

1   21.   (currently amended) A device configured to route messages for a plurality

2   of users, the device comprising:

3   a receiver configured to receive a message from a first user in the plurality of

4   users;

5   an identifier module configured determine a user identifier for the second user for

6   the message, the user identifier usable to determine device types that are associated with the

7   second user;

8   a device type determiner configured to determine a device type in one or more

9   devices device types associated with a the second user in the plurality of users, the device type

10   determined based on one or more communication types associated with the one or more

11   devicesusing the identifier; and

12·   a sender configured to send the message to a device identifier associated with the

13   determined device for the second user.

1   22.   (currently amended) The device of claim 21, wherein the device type is

2   determined based on at least one of communication capabilities of the one or more devicesdevice

3   types, one or more preferences associated with the second user, and presence information for

4   devices device types in the plurality of devices device types associated with the second user.

1   23.   (currently amended) The device of claim 21, further comprising a

2   formatter configured to format the received message to a format compatible with the determined

3   device type.

1   24.   (currently amended) The device of claim 21, further comprising a

2   database configured to store information for one or more devices device types associated with

3   the plurality of users.

1   25.   (canceled)

1   26.   (currently amended) A system for sending messages, the system

2   comprising:

3   a plurality of users, each user associated with one or more ~~devices~~device types;

4   a message router configured to route messages from a first user to a second user,

5   the message router comprising:

6   a receiver configured to receive a message from the first user;

7   an identifier module configured determine a user identifier for the second

8   user for the message, the user identifier usable to determine device types that are associated with

9   the second user;

10   a device determiner configured to determine a device type in ~~one or more~~ the

11   plurality of device types ~~devices~~ associated with the second user, the device type determined

12   ~~based on one or more communication types associated with the one or more devices~~ using the

13   identifier; and

14   a sender configured to send the message to a device identifier associated

15   with the determined device type for the second user.

1   27.   (currently amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the first user and

2   second user comprise a first device that communicates in a first protocol and wherein the

3   determined device type communicates in a second protocol, wherein the message is adapted to

4   the second protocol.

1   28.   (currently amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the first user

2   comprises a device type that communicates in a communication type of at least one of email,

3   SMS, MMS, IM, and voice.

1   29.   (currently amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the communication

2   types associated with the one or more ~~devices~~ device types comprises at least one of email, SMS,

3   MMS, IM, and voice.

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1   30.   (new) A method for sending a message to a recipient, the method

2   comprising:

3   receiving a message from a sender to a recipient, the message being addressed to

4   a username for the recipient;

5   determining a plurality of addresses associated with the recipient using the

6   username, wherein the username for the recipient is different from the plurality of addresses

7   associated with the recipient and the plurality of addresses being addresses in which the recipient

8   can receive messages;

9   dynamically determining an address in the plurality of addresses in which to send

10   the message in response to receiving the message from the sender; and

11   sending the message to the determined address for the recipient.

1   31.   (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the plurality of addresses are

2   associated with a plurality of device types.

1   32.   (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the plurality of addresses are sent

2   through different communication channels to the plurality of device types.

1   33.   (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the recipient identifier is different

2   from the device identifier.

1   34.   (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the user identifier is different

2   from the device identifier.

1   35.   (new) The device of claim 21, wherein the user identifier is different from

2   the device identifier.

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1   36.   (new) The system of claim 26, wherein the user identifier is different

2   from the device identifier.

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